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Note to editors and producers: Media availability with regional water officials will begin at 11 a.m., today, in the Solarium at the Hilton Garden Inn, 700 Lindsay Blvd., in Idaho Falls.

Regional water professionals to discuss ways and means of successful programs

IDAHO FALLS — Continuing the “Waters of the West” workshop series, the Mountain West Water Institute (MWWI) will hold its 2012 “Water Ways & Means” workshop in Idaho Falls on May 15-16. Water and energy stewards from surrounding states, universities, associations, local governments and federal agencies are meeting to improve and accelerate the delivery of science-based solutions for sustainable water resources and sufficient clean water to meet needs of the Mountain West.

The Workshop will focus on products and tools decision-makers, water stewards and users need to respond to competing demands for water resources, including finding the Ways—paths forward through today’s water management challenges; and the Means—the best available strategies, methods, tools, resources and actions to successfully achieve stewardship objectives, and to develop new knowledge related to:

- Synergistic relationships between water and energy,
- Dynamic influences affecting water availability, and
- Critical water quality management practices and techniques.

MWWI is a regional science and technology research collaboration dedicated to building regional collaboration around energy-water issues, and to ensure sustainable supplies of clean water—enough to meet current and future needs in the face of population growth, energy production, economic development, and climate variability. The Institute intends to provide water users and stewards with consistent scientific data, technologies, information and the tools necessary to adapt to the dynamic nature of water availability and quality.

Idaho National Laboratory is the home for MWWI and has a long history of innovation in water, energy and environmental research relevant to the Western Energy Corridor. INL will join collaborators at this workshop to pursue a common vision of sustaining natural resources—and for protecting and making water and energy resources available for regional economic development.

INL is one of the DOE's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. It performs work in each of DOE's strategic goal areas: energy, national security, science and environment, and is the nation's leading center for nuclear energy research and development. Its day-to-day management and operation is the responsibility of Battelle Energy Alliance.

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—INL-12-015—